Development of Computer System at Defence Electronics and Application Laboratory, Dehradun

3148. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMARAO PATIL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a computerised system with vision and intelligence is in advanced stage of development at the Defence Electronics and Application Laboratory, Dehradun;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) in what manner Government propose to utilise the services of this system; and

(d) by when it would be fully developed?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) A project for development of 'image processing techniques for Defence applications' is under progress at Defence Electronics and Application Laboratory Dehradun for last one year. It involves development of computer based vision system using artificial intelligence techniques to process remote sensing data from satellite.

(c) The know-how and technology developed under this project can be used in futuristic system for detection of ground based objects from satellite imagery.

(d) Techniques are likely to be developed by end 1995.

Export of obsolete arms and ammunitions

3149. KUMARI CHANDRIKA PREMJI KENIA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to export some obsolete arms and ammunitions to other countries;

(b) if so, what are the details of such arms and ammunitions and the countries to whom these are proposed to be exported;

(c) at what price these arms and ammunitions were purchased by the Government and at what price it proposes to export them and the foreign exchange expected to be earned from it;

(d) whether Government have invited tenders for the said export; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) Government have decided to dispose of surplus/obsolete equipment available with the Army and may export some of these items if a market for the same is found.

(b) This information is classified and cannot be disclosed in the public interest.

(c) to (e) The Government have set up a Special Surplus Stores Disposal Committee for disposal of old and obsolete stores valued at approximately Rs. 57 crores. The SSSDC has associated the Projects & Equipment Corporation of India India Limited to explore the possibilities of export of some of these items and PEC has established preliminary contacts with some interested parties. It would be premature to indicate the prices likely to be realised on export and the foreign exchange that will be earned on this account.

Foreign exchange crunch for HAL

3150. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that foreign exchange crunch has badly hit the H.A.L. programmes for the production of Jaguar Fighters and Helicopters as per the news item entitled "Bid to keep HAL lines rolling" which appeared in the Hindustan Times, dated 7th November, 1991; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to ensure that the H.A.L. programmes are not affected due to lack of foreign exchange?